

Serial No. 10/646,688

REMARKS

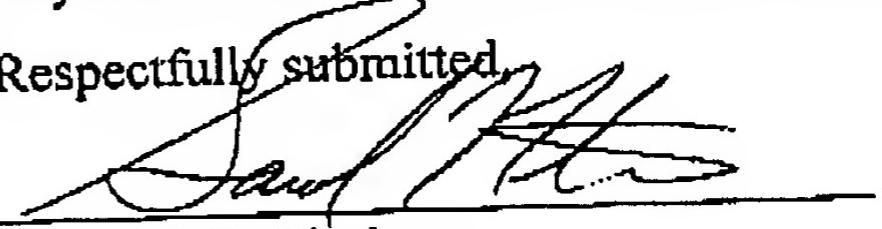
Claims 1-36, 38-40, 42-44, and 46-48 are pending. Claims 1, 22, 30, 39, 43, and 47 have been amended and claims 37, 41, and 45 have been canceled. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

At the outset, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for graciously extending Applicant's representative an interview on April 28, 2005, to discuss the rejections in the outstanding Office Action. During the interview, agreement was reached that claims 37 and 39 are allowable, in addition to claims 13-15, 18-21, 25, and 26 which were previously indicated to be allowable. Claims 41, 43, 45, and 47 are also submitted to be allowable for reciting features similar to claims 37 and 39.

In view of the agreement reached during the interview, in this paper claim 1 has been amended to recite the features of claim 37, claim 22 has been amended to recite the features of 41, and claim 30 has been amended to recite the features of claim 45. In addition, claims 39, 43, and 47 were re-written into independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments are sufficient to overcome all the outstanding rejections and to place the application into condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and furtherance of the application to issue is therefore respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office
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